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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Intergovernmental working group of experts
on human rights of migrants
Second session
Geneva, 16 - 20 February 1998

INFORMATION AND COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS, UNITED NATIONS BODIES, SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Secretary-General

ANNEX

Submission from the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands dated 3 February 1998

GE.98-10442

(...)

The Ministry has the further honor to refer to the following two pages for the answers to the questionnaire.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of the Marshall Islands takes this opportunity to renew to the Embassy of Mexico the assurances of its highest consideration.

Majuro, February 3, 1998

ted to serve in the armed forces of the Marshall Islands except in time of war or imminent danger of war as certified by the Cabinet, and no person shall be conscripted if, after being afforded a reasonable opportunity to do so, he has established that he is a conscientious objector to participation in war.

Section 12. *Equal Protection and Freedom from Discrimination*

(1) All persons are equal under the law and are entitled to the equal protection of the laws.

(2) No law and no executive or judicial action shall, either expressly, or in its practical application, discriminate against any person on the basis of gender, race, color, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, place of birth, family status or descent.

(3) Nothing in this Section shall be deemed to preclude non-arbitrary preferences for citizens pursuant to law.

Section 13. *Personal Autonomy and Privacy*

All persons shall be free from unreasonable interference in personal choices that do not injure others and from unreasonable intrusions into their privacy.

Section 14. *Access to Judicial and Electoral Processes*

(1) Every person has the right to invoke the judicial process as a means of vindicating any interest preserved or created by the law, subject only to regulations which limit access to courts on a non-discriminatory basis.

(2) Every person has the right to participate in the electoral process, whether as a voter or as a candidate for office, subject only to the qualifications prescribed in this Constitution and to election regulations which make it possible for all eligible persons to take part.

(3) In the administration of judicial and electoral processes, no fee may be imposed so as to prevent participation by a person unable to afford such a fee.

Section 15. *Health, Education, and Legal Services*

The Government of the Marshall Islands recognizes the right of the people to health care, education, and legal services and the obligation to take every step reasonable and necessary to provide these services.

1. What are the latest figures or estimates for:

- Total population, including non-nationals, preferably by nationality of origin: 62,000
- Number of nationals abroad, preferably by country of residence: 5,000 - all USA
- Non-nationals having authorization to work in the country: 1,500
- Estimate of irregular migrants, including visa abusers, by country of origin: 100

2. What measures are being taken to strengthen the promotion, protection and implementation of the Human Rights of migrants, such as:

- You are referred to the following pertinent page of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, which is strictly adhered to.

3. Have there been manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination against migrants in your country and against your nationals in another country?

- None on record for both categories.

4. The RMI has not ratified the 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, etc.